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SALT LAKE CITY, DEC. 30, 1907.

BEWARE OF THE POISON.

Governor Cutler, on Saturday, in an interview, gave expression to some thoughts on the undue notoriety certain journals always accord to crimes and criminals. The Governor spoke earnest words that should commend the serious consideration of all men and women who exercise an influence for the moulding of public opinion, and especially those engaged in newspaper work. It is beyond question that the manner in which the shady side of so-called crime is given prominence, in preference to the other side, is injurious. Criminals feed on detailed accounts of crimes. Criminal instincts are being aroused by such accounts in youthful minds, as every one will admit who has noticed the tremendous power of suggestion, for good or for evil. There is every reason why the dangerous moral poison that develops in the dark corners of the social structure should be handled with extreme care, and only by, or under the supervision of, experienced specialists. Diptheria patients are isolated. Even funerals are interfered with, when death is due to contagious diseases. Disease germs are handled with the utmost care in civilized communities. It has been found necessary to guard against the spread of physical infection, by all the means known to science. But moral infection, though even more dangerous, is often spread broadcast through channels ostensibly devoted to the communication of intelligence.

The sophistical answer to this self-evident truth generally is, first that the news must be given, and secondly, that the public wants such reading, and for financial reasons. When the public no longer pays for accounts of murders and other horrors, their publication will cease.

But this is not the principle acted upon in matters relating to the physical health of man. There may be a demand for opium, and opium joints would undoubtedly pay, but they are prohibited. So are other dens of iniquity that exist only against public sentiment. There may be a demand for certain poisons, but drug stores must not sell them except in accordance with a physician's prescription. We safeguard as best we can against the supply of drugs and poisons that ruin body and soul, even against the demand that may exist. Why should not this be done in the case of moral poison, too? By supplying the demand for it, the craving becomes stronger and more domineering, and, finally, the effects become apparent. The poison blunts the moral sense and kills the conscience.

As for the obligation of news agencies to supply the news, there is this to say, that they are under no obligation to give undue importance to demoralizing news, and minimize the importance of other news items. And that is the well founded complaint against the species of journalism that has been classed as "yellow."

THE PLEDGE BREAKERS.

The local anti-Mormon sheet, very properly, approaches the end of its journalistic work for the year with a lengthy article in which it concentrates its venom and supplies it against the Church. It reiterates its falsehoods concerning pledge-breaking, and appeals to the prejudices of its dupes, hoping to keep the agitation by which it subsists, going, indefinitely. Lately, prominent men of this city have expressed their opinion that we need peace and good will among all classes of citizens here. The Tribune trembles at the mere suggestion of another era of good will, just as a certain potentate is said to fear holy water, and that is, no doubt, the reason for its frantic New Year's appeal for more strife, more hatred.

Briefly stated, the article in question charges that polygamy has not been abandoned; that throughout the State men are living in unlawful cohabitation; that the Church is engaged in commercial enterprises, and that the Church interferes in politics. What are the facts?

1. The Church has faithfully kept its pledge given relative to the practice of polygamy. No plural marriages have been contracted by authority of the Church, since the issuance of the Manifesto by President Woodruff. The Tribune, with the utter disregard of truth that characterizes it, alleges, that:

"In April of this year the first presidency of the Mormon Church issued an official declaration, in which it is confessed that there has not been a complete cessation of polygamous marriages."

Here is what was said in that official statement:

"The 'Mormon' people have bowed in respectful submission to the laws enacted against plural marriage. While it is true that for many years they contested the constitutionality of the act of Congress, and during that time acted in harmony with their religious convictions in upholding by practice, as well as by spoken and written word, a principle committed to them from God, still, when every means of constitutional defense had been exhausted, the Church abandoned the controversy and announced its intention to be obedient to the laws of the land. Subsequently, when established for Utah as a condition, on the condition that her constitution provide by ordinance, irrevocable, without the consent of the United States, that plural marriages should be for ever prohibited, the 'Mormon' people accepted the condition by voting for the adoption of the constitution. From that time until now the Church has been true

to its pledge respecting the abandonment of plural marriage. If it be urged that there have been instances of the violation of the anti-polygamy laws, and that some persons within the Church have sought to evade the rule adopted by her, prohibiting plural marriages, the plain answer is that in every state and nation there are individuals who violate the law. In spite of all the vigilance that can be exercised, but it does not follow that the integrity of a community or a state is destroyed because of such individual transgressions. All we ask is that the same common-sense judgment be exercised in relation to our community that is accorded to other communities."

This, as will be seen is an official, positive denial of the charge that the Church has broken any pledges with regard to the practice of plural marriage. And it stands true, in spite of all allegations to the contrary.

2. The charge that the Church has broken any pledges by engaging in commercial enterprises is nothing if not silly. It is made for the purpose of infaming business men, if possible, against the Church. The matter of it is best seen when it is remembered that the Church never was interested in commercial enterprises than it is now. When all the people here were members of the Church, and it was necessary for the Leaders to give advice regarding the temporal welfare of the people, as well as their spiritual needs, for the simple reason that they had to conquer a desert and make it habitable, and that without any of the ordinary resources of most settlers, to engage in and give advice as to temporal affairs was often unavoidable. But conditions have largely changed, and the Leaders of the Church have been quick to recognize the change. We quote again from the official declaration issued last April:

"The charge then that the Church is a commercial rather than a religious institution; that its aims are temporal rather than spiritual; that it dictates its members in their industrial activities and relations, and aims at absolute domination in temporal affairs—all this we emphatically deny. It has also been the policy of the Church to foster home industries. Where there has been lack of confidence in some of these enterprises, and private capital has been afraid to invest, the Church has furnished funds that the practicability of the undertaking might be demonstrated; and repeatedly the wisdom of this policy has been made manifest. Thereby the resources of various localities have been developed, commerce has been diversified, and the people, especially the poor, given increased opportunity of employment and a better chance to become self-sustaining."

We think the course of the Church in this regard needs no defense, no apology. And there is nothing in the attitude of the Church today that any reasonable being, whether on earth or elsewhere, can construe as "pledge-breaking."

3. The charge that the Church interferes in politics is false. Fortunately, that question was thoroughly gone into by the Senate committee during the late investigation, and the Senate disposed of it by adopting the following report:

"While it is no doubt true that the habit which the church and the members of the church had followed for so many years prior to the breaking up of the old parties of voters receiving counsel from officials of the church in regard to the selection of candidates for office was not at once completely broken off, yet the evidence further establishes that the improvement in this regard has been very rapid and that, of late years, the Mormon voters of the state adhere more closely to party lines than the non-Mormons do. We think the evidence establishes the fact that since Reed Smoot became an Apostle of the Mormon church on the 6th of April, 1905, the Mormon church has not controlled or attempted to control elections in Utah."

4. The only charge in which there is a semblance of truth is this, that a few members of the Church are still living with their wives, with whom they entered into sacred covenants for both time and eternity, in consecrated places, before God. But can any reasonable being find any warrant for kindling the flames of persecution against the Church on that account? Some of these covenants were even prior to the enactment of the laws now in force.

Such marriage relations are rapidly decreasing. It has been proved that at the time of the Manifesto there were about 2,451 polygamous families. In May, 1902, this number had been reduced to 397. It was estimated during the Senate investigation that about 600 remained at that time, and that number has undoubtedly again been reduced, by natural causes. This proves beyond national controversy that the Church leaders have been sincere and that the Church has loyally kept whatever pledges were made. It is through this loyalty that the results have been achieved. What neither prisons, nor mobs, nor bigotry, could do, the faith of the "Mormon" people has accomplished.

The "Mormons" have broken no pledges. The pledge-breakers are the assailants of the Church who, for political reasons, started their infamous crusade. The pledge-breakers are the ignorant bigots who, while professing to be combated servants of the Almighty, entered into unholy alliance with shady politicians, drunkards, keepers of dens of iniquity and all kinds of characters, in a political warfare upon an infighting religious community, in the hope of practically disfranchising the members and, by that un-American method, breaking up the Church. Those are the pledge-breakers. The mark is upon them, like the mark of the beast.

There was no need of the crusade. It was instigated by anti-Mormons for the purpose of compelling the people of Utah to bow down to the tyranny of unwholy political ambition. And that is the whole truth in a nutshell.

DANGERS OF COAL MINING.

This paper recently commented upon the large annual death lines of men engaged in mining as an indication that present industrial laws are insufficient for the protection of this class of workmen. During the year 1906, the record for coal mine disasters shows that the average death rate among miners was six each day and thirteen each day permanently disabled.

Coal mining is necessarily beset with dangers, but that seven regiments of men should have perished in this country in a single year in the mines, is a sadder record of those swallowed up in the earth or crushed while mining for coal for their fellowman.

America seems backward in legislation and other measures that tend to

lessen the risk of this form of industrial service.

The number of deaths among every thousand miners in all European coal producing countries has been steadily decreasing at a rapid rate during the last decade, although the output of coal has increased greatly in the same period. But in this country the number of fatalities has doubled since 1905, so that now we have the unenviable distinction of killing three times as many miners in the thousand as the leading European nations do. The same discreditable disparity appears if the comparison is made on the basis of casualties to the million tons of coal mined. It is believed also that the two great and appalling recent disasters—in the month of December, of 1907—will make this year out-do the previous one in this sinister respect.

As we remarked before, we need better protective laws. The stupidity of certain classes of laborers, mostly foreign born, may contribute to the frequency of mine disasters, but it only emphasizes the need of better measures for their protection. The toll of death is a large one. An investigation made by the interior department shows that 23,000 men have lost their lives in the mines of the United States during the last seventeen years. The last half of this period has been more marked by mine disasters than the first. The number of people employed in coal mining is increasing with each year. The death toll is likely to grow longer rather than shorter. In Europe the output of coal has been greater during the last ten years than ever before. The difficulties of access to the veins have become more marked in the older countries. But the deaths per 1,000 of miners have shown a notable decrease. This is largely due to the efficiency of mining legislation for the safeguarding of the lives of the men.

Shopping is much more apt to be a cause of than cure for insanity.

Secretary Taft created quite a Hub-bub in Boston.

The line of the navy does not find a staff a stay and a staff.

New York's Sundays are still blue, but they are of a brighter blue.

Currency is a good thing. Why shouldn't a currency commission be?

Here is encouragement for all candidates. No boom is dead until after the nomination is made.

The question is asked, "Where is General Coxey?" It is pretty safe to say that he isn't on the grass.

"The rich man gets the worst of it," says Mr. Stuyvesant Fish. The rich man gets the most of it rather.

A French inventor claims to be able to send photographs by wireless telegraphy. That's nothing. Anybody can send them by mail.

When there is an eager and nipping air, and the snow lies deep on the ground, no automobile ever equalled a bobsleigh and bells.

The opening of the Druce coffin proves two things: that it contained human bones and not lead, and that Caldwell is a first class liar.

An old lady of Marysville, Ohio, died last week at the age of a hundred and six years. She claimed that the eating of apples prolonged her life.

"Too much money is to be our next trouble," says a prominent banker. That is the kind of trouble a man is perfectly willing to relieve his neighbors of.

If the Nevada legislature does not pass a law providing for a militia, state constabulary or rangers, she will be apt to metamorphose from the Sagebrush State into a state of anarchy.

A physician says there are fifty kinds of headache. Any one who suffers from headache will agree with the statement and testify that they generally are all present at the same time.

A French writer commenting on the bestowal of the Nobel prize on Rudyard Kipling, calls him "the barbaric Kipling." From this it is to be inferred that the prize itself is "barbaric pearl and gold."

Two hundred London barbers are going to have a contest to see which can shave a man in the shortest time. The victim will have a close rather than a clean shave.

A chicken thief broke into an Evansville, Ind., hen house, carried off all the chickens and left some poetry in payment. Indiana, being nothing if not literary, is the only state in the Union where poetry is taken in pay for poultry.

The second Thaw trial begins next Monday. It is said that "an imposing array of expert witnesses" will undertake to establish that Thaw was insane when he killed White. "Imposing" is the right qualifying word for the phrase "array of expert witnesses."

"I have paid particular attention all my life to memory training, and when I was quite young I received a prize for committing to memory one thousand verses from the Bible," says Senator Knox. A most excellent thing, surely, but is it the best training for a race for a presidential nomination?

RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

The so-called "practice cruise" to the Pacific, the beginning of which on Dec. 16 will make that date one of the red-letter days of the American navy, is discussed in a remarkable article in the current Harper's Weekly by Walter Scott McInerney. Mr. McInerney brings to light facts and draws conclusions concerning the cruise which will come as a surprise even to well-informed readers. Other articles and stories of conspicuous interest in this issue are contributed by William F. Knox, head coach of the Yale eleven, who writes of "The New England" by Sydney Brooks, the Weekly's London correspondent; by O. S. Jackson, who tells of The Price the Hopi Indians are paying for Chinese slaves; and by Sewell Ford, who contributes a piece of fiction entitled "The Making of a Citizen."—Harper & Bros., New York.

A SERMON FOR WORKERS

(For the "News," by H. J. Hapgood.)

Your sales manager doesn't care about buggy rides, or weather reports. What he wants are orders. Don't write him that train service has been so poor that you have had to drive to the next town. Don't say that your customers have your fishing. Don't blame it on the financial panic. Don't tell how hard it has been raining. He is not interested in these things. He wants orders, and it is up to you, Mr. Salesman, to send them in. Every morning in the mail the head of the selling force receives all kinds of excuses. He opens envelope after envelope expecting to see orders, but finds that they are only letters from his men explaining why there are no orders to be had. Most of them hold the weather man to account. One of the largest houses in Philadelphia recently instituted a system which was designed to discourage these various reports and excuses. Among other things they made arrangements to receive regularly the government weather reports. Then, when their representative out in Texas somewhere, writes in that he has been unable to make the small towns because of the heavy rains putting the roads in such a condition that the wheels sink down to the hubs, they can immediately compare the official report and see how good the excuse really is.

Such excuses are not much anyway, even when they are true. The salesman is sent out for orders and the firm won't consider weather reports as an acceptable substitute.

SUNDAY CLOSING.

Los Angeles Express.

Judge William H. Wallace of the criminal court of Kansas City is attracting the admiration of good citizenship throughout the whole country by his vigorous insistence upon the enforcement of the Sunday laws. Through the county grand jury 1,100 indictments have been found against theatrical managers, their actors and actresses, saloonkeepers, owners of cigar stands and grocery stores. All except the theatrical managers have ceased their violations of the law and with that exception Kansas City has become a closed and respectable city on Sunday.

PRECIOUS METALS.

Sacramento Bee.

Work is already progressing actively at Seattle in preparation for the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific exposition, which is to open in that city on June 1, 1909. This will be the second "world's fair" west of the Rocky Mountains, being the first to follow the Lewis and Clark exposition at Portland. Although Seattle is rather too remote from the great centers of population in this country to be visited by a very large number of persons, the coming exposition is likely to prove highly interesting and attractive. The State of Washington has voted \$1,000,000 for the purpose, the citizens of Seattle have taken stock to the amount of \$500,000. Oregon and California have each appropriated \$100,000 for exhibits, and Congress is to be asked to devote \$1,175,000 for a government building and exhibits, including suitable representation for Hawaii, the Philippines and the Pacific coast fisheries. Numerous foreign countries are expected to make representative displays.

TOO MUCH RUM.

Boston Transcript.

Stabbings, shootings, fires, drownings, a record of rival the celebration of July Fourth, suggests the dangers while the leisure. Such a day of disasters reconciles the sober-going ninety-and-nine to the week-day task, the honest work which is a sedative to one-half of humanity, and a safety-valve to the other half. The end of a hard day finds the potential trouble-hunter too worn out, too "done up," to care whether the ruffian who jostled him on the stairs intended an insult or not. With a man as tired as he is, it is not worth while to pick a quarrel. The fatalities of July Fourth are to be explained on natural grounds. When several millions of people play with fire one day in the year, a few are sure to be burned. The Christmas frolics, unfortunately, are plainly from other causes. Such celebration, too much carousing and too much rum. The national calendar is so far rather sparsely settled with holidays, and this is not a source of unalloyed regret to those who note some effects of the ones we have.

JUST FOR FUN.

"Speaking of marriages," observed the Cynical Bachelor, "the longer a man is married—the happier he is." "I was going to say," resumed the Cynical Bachelor, "that the longer he is married the less he seems to mind it."—Philadelphia Record.

A No Account Dog.

A man in Missouri recently sued a railway company for damages for the death of a hound killed on the track. The company defended itself upon the following points:

Said dog was chasing a rabbit up defendant's track in violation of the same laws.

Said rabbit lived on defendant's right of way, and was therefore the property of the defendant.

Plaintiff's dog was a trespasser, and was hunting defendant's property without permission.

Said deceased was not much of a dog, anyhow, or it could easily have kept out of the way of defendant's trains.

And having fully answered, defendant prays to be discharged.—Youth's Companion.

Armored.

Some people are so egotistical that they do not know when they are on the run.—Maryville (Mo.), Republican.

As Between Students.

Senior—Hello! Where's your chum? You started out together.

Berry Junior—He left (his) three lamp-posts behind.—Lippincott's.

Mountain Brand.

"Praise to glory the South is going dry!" shouted the temperance advocate, waving his arms. "It will bring sunshine and glory to our homes."

"Yes, and moonshine, brother," spoke up the little man who had been sitting in the side row.—Puck.

Quite Fitting.

The Monument Man (after several abortive suggestions)—How would simply "Gone Home" do?

Mrs. Newbeds—I guess that would be all right. It was always the best place he ever thought of going.—Puck.

In Lengthy Terms.

In the suburbs of one of our great cities recently a new resident stopped in front of his neighbor's gate and inquired of the boy standing thereon:

"Is your pa home, sonny?"

"No sir," replied the lad. "He went up the road a piece."

"Go ahead!"

"No! About a mile."—Judge's Library.

UNDERWEAR FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY AT REDUCED PRICES

Do you feel at all cold? If so, step into our Underwear Department and fit yourself out in a nice warm suit of Knitted Underwear. Our entire line is reduced, including such well known and popular makes as the Munsing, Merode, Ypsilante and other well known makes.

VESTS AND PANTS

Ladies', Children's and Infants' Vests and Pants in cotton, cotton fleeced, wool, wool mixtures, silk and silk mixtures.

20c value for	15c
25c value for	20c
30c value for	25c
35c value for	30c
40c value for	35c
45c value for	40c
50c value for	45c
55c value for	50c
60c value for	55c
65c value for	60c
70c value for	65c
75c value for	70c
80c value for	75c
85c value for	80c
90c value for	85c
95c value for	90c
1.00 value for	95c
1.05 value for	1.00
1.10 value for	1.05
1.15 value for	1.10
1.20 value for	1.15
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1.30 value for	1.25
1.35 value for	1.30
1.40 value for	1.35
1.45 value for	1.40
1.50 value for	1.45
1.55 value for	1.50
1.60 value for	1.55
1.65 value for	1.60
1.70 value for	1.65
1.75 value for	1.70
1.80 value for	1.75
1.85 value for	1.80
1.90 value for	1.85
1.95 value for	1.90
2.00 value for	1.95

UNION SUITS

Ladies' and Misses' Union Suits in plain cotton, cotton fleeced, wool fleeced, wool and wool mixtures, silk and silk mixtures.

25c value for	20c
30c value for	25c
35c value for	30c
40c value for	35c
45c value for	40c
50c value for	45c
55c value for	50c
60c value for	55c
65c value for	60c
70c value for	65c
75c value for	70c
80c value for	75c
85c value for	80c
90c value for	85c
95c value for	90c
1.00 value for	95c
1.05 value for	1.00
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1.70 value for	1.65
1.75 value for	1.70
1.80 value for	1.75
1.85 value for	1.80
1.90 value for	1.85
1.95 value for	1.90
2.00 value for	1.95

STORE CLOSING WEDNESDAY, NEW YEAR'S DAY AND REMAINS CLOSED THURSDAY FOR STOCK TAKING

Z.C.M.I.

Where You Get the Best
Our Drug Store is
At 112-114 S. Main St.

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UNDER SOUTHERN SKIES

Written by Louis Blair Parker, Author of "Way Down East."

Prices—Matinee, 2c and 50c; Children, 1c and 25c; Night, 2c to \$1.50. Four hundred seats at \$1.00.

Next Attraction: "George Washington, Jr.," begins New Year's day, Saturday.

Opheum THEATRE

ADVANCED VAUDEVILLE. ALL WEEK.

The Baggages
Mayme Remington & Pinks
"The Quartet"
La Belle Orlene, Charles Marvel
Kindred
Opheum Orchestra.

Every Evening (except Sunday), 8:15, 7:50, 6:30. Box seats, \$1.00.
Matinee daily (except Sunday and Monday), 2:15, 6:00, 5:00, 4:00. Box seats, 50c.

GRAND THEATRE

Direction: Pelton & Smulzer, C. W. Anderson, Res. Mgr.

TONIGHT

MATINEE NEW YEAR'S DAY.

2:30 p. m.

Miss Grace Hayes Lambert, in

The Girl and The Stampede.

(The prettiest play in years.)

Next Week, "TILLY GILSON."

LYRIC THEATRE

Direction: Sullivan & Connelins

THE MOORE STOCK COMPANY

Presents the great Western Drama,

A Cow Boy's Honor

One show nightly 8:15.

Candy Matinee Saturday.

Special New Year's Matinee, Wednesday 2:30.

Prices 10-25-50 cents.

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If you would be graceful learn to roller skate, at Salt Lake's big rink, Ladies taught FREE at all sessions.

General Admission 10c.

Held's Brass Band afternoons and evenings.

PRINCESS RINK.

FAIR GROUNDS.

Ladies Free.

Races with prizes every night.

Skates 15c. Admission 10 cents.

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Carstensen & Anson Co. and

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